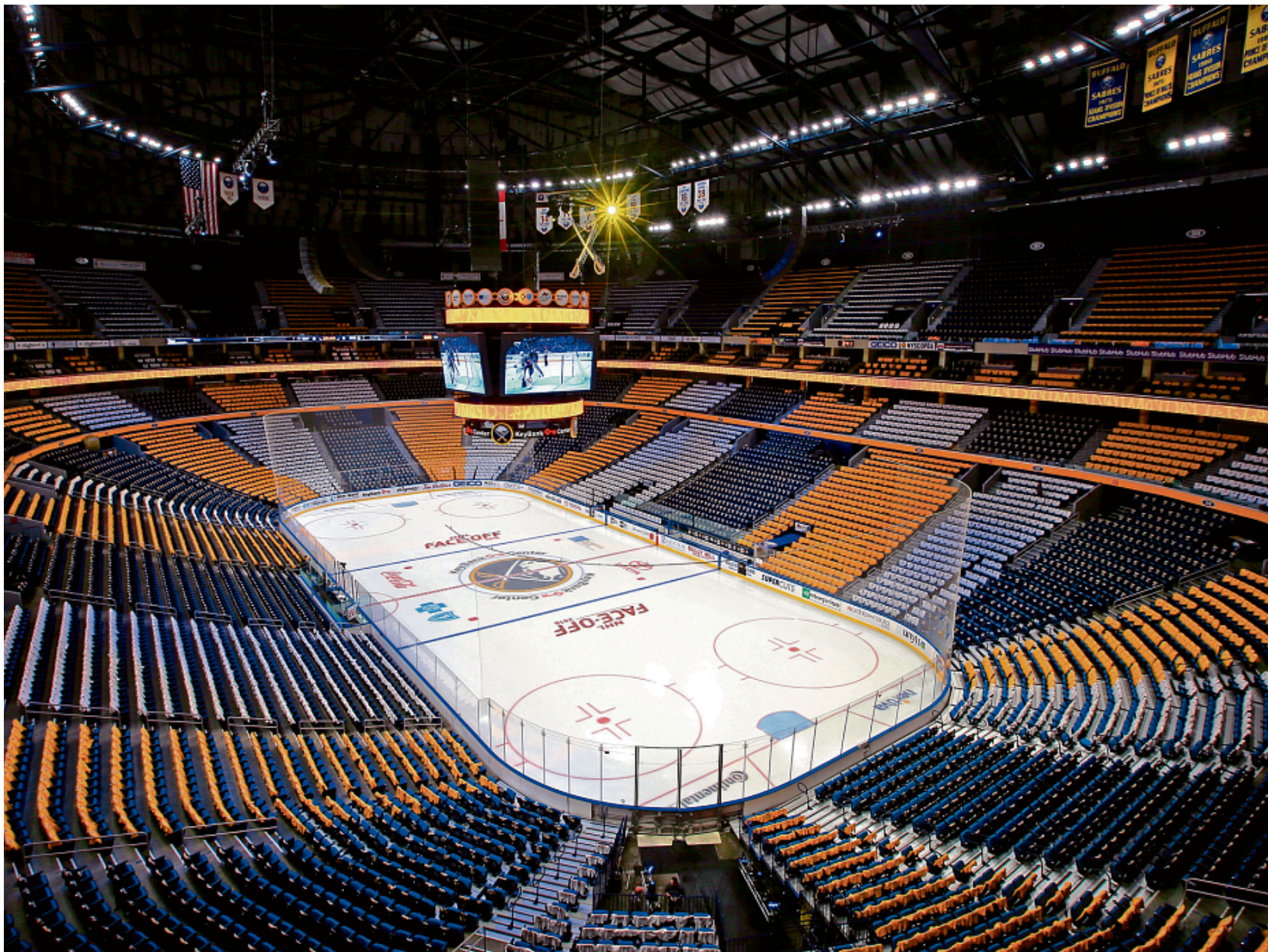


THE BUFFALO NEWS

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COVID-19 rattles market, cancels events, changing life as we know it



Harry Scull Jr./News file photo

The ice rink at KeyBank Center may be empty for a while after the National Hockey League announced Thursday that it was suspending play.

Italy offers world a grim glimpse of what awaits

By JASON HOROWITZ
NEW YORK TIMES

ROME — The mayor of one town complained that doctors were forced to decide not to treat the very old, leaving them to die. In another town, patients with novel coronavirus-caused pneumonia were being sent home. Elsewhere, a nurse collapsed with her mask on, her photograph becoming an icon of overwhelmed medical staff.

In less than three weeks, COVID-19 has overloaded the health care system all over northern Italy. It has turned the hard-hit Lombardy region into a grim glimpse of what awaits countries if they cannot slow the spread

See **Italy** on Page A7

NHL pauses season over coronavirus fears

From professional sports to March Madness, most events are nixed. Page B1

• **Trouble ahead:** A doctor says the U.S. health system may break down if there is a sudden surge in coronavirus cases. *Page A3*

• **County takes proactive steps:** Local leaders believe the virus has already infected people here. They just haven't found them yet. *Page A4*

• **Tourism takes a hit:** Niagara Falls is faring better than some destinations, but still affected. *Page A5*

Wall Street suffers biggest drop since 1987

By EMILY COCHRANE,
JEANNA SMIALEK AND
JIM TANKERSLEY
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Financial markets plunged Thursday in the biggest one-day drop since the Black Monday stock market crash of 1987, and Congress neared a deal with the White House on a sweeping economic rescue package to respond to the colossal effect of the coronavirus pandemic.

After a day of intense negotiations between Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California and the Treasury secretary, Steven Mnuchin, Pelosi told reporters that “we’ve resolved most of

our differences” and the House would vote today on the measure “one way or another.” It would then go to the Senate.

The legislation, according to a letter Pelosi sent to her members, will include enhanced unemployment benefits, free virus testing, aid for food assistance programs and federal funds for Medicaid. The package also ensures 14 days of paid sick leave, as well as tax credits to help small- and medium-size businesses fulfill that mandate. Language was still being drafted for provisions related to family and medical leave, according to a Democratic aide, as staff

See **Economy** on Page A7

Jemal pursues another major tenant for Seneca One with 300 new jobs

By JONATHAN D. EPSTEIN
NEWS BUSINESS REPORTER

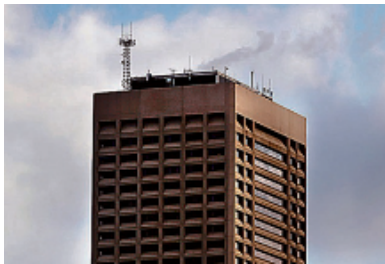
Developer Douglas Jemal is working to land a California-based technology company for his Seneca One tower in downtown Buffalo, potentially taking up the top dozen floors of the city's tallest building with more than 300 new jobs.

Jemal, whose Douglas Development

Corp. owns the 38-story building, confirmed that he is negotiating with a California-based technology company to occupy about 200,000 square feet of space in the landmark tower.

No lease has been signed yet, he said, as discussions are still “in the preliminary stages,” but “it’s looking very positive.”

“It passed muster with their senior board members to pursue,” Jemal said.



Mark Mulville/Buffalo News

Jemal would not identify the company, but said it's a “well-established” technology-oriented company, with more than 1,000 employees overall and offices in Boston and New York City.

“They’re looking at possibly expanding into Buffalo,” he said. “This is new. This is out of state.”

If Jemal is successful, he said the new company would occupy the 26th through 38th floors of the 1.2-million-

square-foot complex. It would become the second-biggest tenant after M&T Bank Corp., which is preparing to move into 330,000 square feet of space on the two enormous base levels below the plaza, plus 11 floors of the tower. 43North, the state-funded business plan competition, has already taken up residency on one floor,

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WEATHER

Morning rain, then sun. High 50, low 32. Details on Page C12



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